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CLAIMS:

1.

In combination with a flexible and collapsible bulk bag having a side wall, ends and an opening adjacent one end to the exterior of the bag through which contents are discharged, and a flexible and collapsible liner received in said bag generally complimentary thereto and having a side wall, ends and an opening adjacent one end through which the contents are discharged; the improvement comprising, at least two connectors between said liner and bag and each connecting said liner to said bag, said connectors being spaced apart and each located adjacent a side wall portion of said bag and adjacent the one end of said bag and liner having the discharge openings therethrough, and all of said connectors being constructed, arranged, located and connected to said liner such that said liner is not withdrawn from said bag and can collapse upon itself during discharge of the contents thereof independently of and without being substantially restricted by said bag from collapsing, whereby the contents of said bag and liner are discharged through said openings without the liner being withdrawn from said bag by such discharge.

2.

The combination bag and liner of claim 1 wherein said connectors permanently connect said liner to said bag.

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3.

The combination bag and liner of claim 1 wherein each of said connectors comprises means constructed and arranged to be disconnectable so that the liner can be detached and removed from the bag.

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The combination of claim 1 wherein each of said connectors comprise a first tab connected to said bag and having a hole therethrough, a second tab connected to said liner and having a hole therethrough, and a fastener received in both of said holes of said first and second tabs and constructed and arranged to releasably connect the tabs together so that the liner can be disconnected and removed from the bag.

*Sub a
Claim 4*
5.

The combination of bag and liner of claim 4 wherein said fastener comprises a removable ring.

6.

The combination bag and liner of claim 4 which also comprises a grommet disposed in said hole of each of said first and second tabs.

7.

The combination bag and liner of claim 4 wherein each of said second tabs is a loop of adhesive tape with its end portions adhered to said liner.

8.

The combination bag and liner of claim 4 wherein each of said second tabs is a loop of fiber reinforced adhesive tape with its end portions adhered to said liner.

9.

The combination bag and liner of claim 4 wherein said liner is made of plastic film and each of said second tabs comprises two strips of overlapped plastic film heat sealed together and each a homogenously integral portion of a panel of plastic film of said liner.

10.

The combination bag and liner of claim 1 wherein each of said connectors is a loop of fiber reinforced adhesive tape with its end portions adhered to said liner.

11.

The combination bag and liner of ~~claim 1~~ wherein each of said connectors comprises a loop of adhesive tape with overlapped runs adhered together and end portions each adhered to a portion of said liner.

12.

The combination bag and liner of claim ~~11~~ wherein a portion of said loop of tape of each of said connectors is secured to said bag by stitches.

13.

The combination bag and liner of claim 1 wherein said liner is made of plastic film and each of said connectors

comprises two strips of overlapped plastic film heat sealed together and each a homogeneously integral portion of a panel of plastic film of said liner, and said strips are permanently secured to said bag.

14.

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The combination bag and liner of claim 1 which also comprises at least one connector located adjacent the other end of said bag and liner and connecting said liner to said bag.

15.

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The combination bag and liner of claim 14 wherein at least four of said connectors are located adjacent said one end of said bag and liner.

16.

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The combination bag and liner of claim 1 which also comprises at least two spaced apart connectors located adjacent the other end of said bag and liner, and each also located adjacent the side of said bag and liner and connecting said liner to said bag.

17.

The combination bag and liner of claim 1 wherein at least four of said connectors are located adjacent said one end of said bag and liner.

18.

The combination bag and liner of claim 1 which also comprises a discharge spout of said bag at least in part defining

said discharge opening of said bag, a discharge spout of said liner defining at least in part said discharge opening of said liner and being extendable into said discharge spout of said bag.

19.

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The combination bag and liner of claim 18 which also comprises a connector located generally upstream of and adjacent to said discharge liner spout and permanently connecting said bag and liner together upstream of said spout of said discharge liner.

*Sub to
claim 19*
20.

The combination bag and liner of claim 19 which also comprises a wear sleeve of a flexible material received within and lapping at least a portion of said spouts of both said liner and bag, and a connector permanently connecting said sleeve to said bag upstream of the outlet end of said spout of said bag.

21.

The combination bag and liner of claim 20 wherein said last mentioned connector also connects said liner to said bag upstream of, adjacent to and generally around the periphery of said discharge spout of said liner.

22.

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The combination bag and liner of claim ¹⁹~~18~~ wherein said bag when expanded has a generally cubical configuration with a pair of generally rectangular side wall panels connected by a pair of gusseted side panels and is constructed and arranged

such that when the bag is empty it can be collapsed and folded into a generally flat configuration.

23.

The combination bag and liner of claim 21 wherein said liner has a pair of generally rectangular side panels and a pair of interconnecting gusseted panels complimentary to their corresponding bag panels and is constructed and arranged when expanded to have a generally cubical configuration and when empty can be folded into a generally flat configuration.

24.

In combination with a flexible and collapsible bulk bag having a side wall, ends and a spout adjacent each end which can be opened to the exterior of the bag and through which its contents can be discharged, and a flexible and collapsible liner received in said bag generally complimentary thereto and having a side wall, ends and a spout in each end through which the contents can be discharged; the improvement comprising, at least one connector between said liner and bag adjacent each end and each connecting said liner to said bag, each connector being located adjacent the periphery of an associated spout and its associated end and permanently connecting together said bag and liner, and all of said connectors being constructed, arranged, located and connected to said liner such that said liner is not withdrawn from said bag and can collapse upon itself during discharge of the contents thereof independently of and without

being substantially restricted by said bag from collapsing, whereby the contents of said bag and liner are discharged through said openings without the liner being withdrawn from said bag by such discharge.

25.

The combination bag and liner of claim 24 wherein each of said connectors extends generally around the periphery of its associated spout.

26.

The combination bag and liner of claim 24 wherein each of said connectors comprises stitching extending generally around substantially the entire periphery of its associated spout.

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